

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.1116

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/910,902

Attorney Docket No.: Q63847

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A ~~method for producing~~ process for the production of an electrical cables comprising ~~an electric conductor~~ at least one conducting wire coated with ~~an~~ insulating layer of cross-linked polyethylene, ~~in which a polyethylene granulate is mixed with a liquid silane containing cross-linking agent, the granulate mixture thus prepared is melted in an extruder and extruded onto the electrical conductor, and the extruded coating is cross-linked~~ the process comprising the steps of mixing a material made of polyethylene, a liquid silane- containing cross-linking agent and stabilizer to form a mixture, melting said mixture in an extruder to form a melt, extruding said melt onto the conducting wire to form an extruded layer on the wire and cross-linking said extruded layer in the presence of water or steam, wherein said ~~polyethylene granulate comprises a~~ material made of polyethylene comprises a mixture of granulate made of polyethylene homopolymer and a copolymer of ethylene, said copolymer of ethylene comprises at least one of an ethylene-butyl acrylate (EBA), an ethylene-ethyl acrylate (EEA) or an and ethylene-methyl acrylate (EMA) and the acrylate content in portion of said copolymer of ethylene is from 10%—35% by weight 10-35 wt% of said copolymer, and wherein the content of said copolymer of ethylene in the insulating coating on the cable is between 1 and 8% by weight and said copolymer is between 1 and 8 weight percent of said extruded layer.

2. (original): A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the granulate mixture is coated with a liquid mixture of silane, peroxide and possibly a stabilizer prior to a compounding process.

3. (original): A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the granulate mixture is coated with a liquid mixture of silane, peroxide and possibly a stabilizer during the compounding process.

4. (original): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the granulate material coated with the cross-linking agent is grafted, homogenized and subsequently regranulated.

5. (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the regranulate provided with a catalyst or a catalyst batch is introduced into an extruder, extruded onto the conducting wire~~electrical conductor~~, and the coating extruded onto the conducting wire~~electrical conductor~~ is cross-linked in the presence of water or steam.

6. (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the granular polyethylene homopolymer material alone is coated with the liquid cross-linking agent in a compounding system, melted, grafted, homogenized and subsequently regranulated, and the regranulate and a granular copolymer of ethylene, and a catalyst, are placed into an extruder,

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where the mixture is melted, homogenized and extruded onto the conducting wire~~electrical conductor~~ and cross-linked.

7. (cancelled).

8. (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a granular material of polyethylene homopolymer and copolymer of ethylene is placed into an extruder, a liquid mixture of silane, peroxide and possibly a stabilizer as well as a catalyst or a highly concentrated catalyst batch is likewise placed into the extruder, and the mixture is melted, grafted and homogenized in the extruder, and the grafted, homogenized material is extruded onto the conducting wire~~electrical conductor~~ and cross-linked in the presence of water or steam.

9. (canceled).